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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (a) & (b) Free licences were being issued up to 31st March 1954 to dealers dealing exclusively in Khadi so as to enable them to get the benefit of the exemption from payment of sales tax on Khadi. In the absence of a licence, the dealers were liable to pay sales tax and failure to pay tax rendered them liable to the penal action under the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939.

" (c) No action has been taken for the year 1954–55 as stated. But action was initiated against the Corporation to collect a sum of Rs. 362–11–0 being the tax due from it for the year 1953–54 on unlicensed transactions."

Extension of electricity to Manjeri, etc.

* 2269 *Q.*—SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to the answer given on 12th March 1955 to a supplementary to question No. 1308—

(a) the order of priority assigned to the scheme for the extension of electricity to Manjeri, Malappuram, Kottakal and Perintalmanna; and

(b) when it will be taken up for execution?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) As the scheme for extension of supply of electricity to Manjeri, etc., villages is still under the consideration of the Government the question of assigning its rank in the priority list of sanctioned scheme does not arise now.

" (b) In view of the answer to sub-clause (a)above, it is not possible at present to forecast when the scheme is likely to be taken up for execution."

9 a.m. SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—", Sir, in view of the fact that electricity is very necessary for introducing rural water-supply schemes and protected water-supply schemes in major panchayats like Manjeri, Perintalmanna, for the lack of which these panchayats have not been fortunate enough to have these water-supply schemes and in view of the fact that industrial colonies are proposed to be started in the Second Five-Year Plan in centres where there are electricity facilities, will the Government consider extension of electricity to these towns as early as possible?"

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have stated, Sir, that the scheme itself is awaiting sanction of the Government. Even if it is sanctioned now, it is not likely to be taken up before the close of this year because already our commitments in respect of large-scale programmes is afoot. If at all it is sanctioned and taken up, it can be done only in the year 1956–57."

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SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" During question time in the last session, the Hon. Minister stated that the scheme of extending electricity to these towns is under the consideration of the Government and it would be executed as early as possible. Therefore I put this question now to know the priority assigned to this scheme in the list of schemes to be taken up by the Government this year. Now the Hon. Minister says that they are under consideration. Will the Government see that they arrive at a decision soon and extend electricity to these towns before the current year is over? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Sir, it is not possible. It is a fact that I said that the scheme is being considered by the Government. But then the Government Department said that they were unable to propose this scheme which is not remunerative. So it was deleted. But now actually the scheme has been formulated and is before the Government. The Government have to go into the scheme and sanction it. As I told the hon. Member, even if it is sanctioned now, it cannot be taken up during the current year."

Conference of the Tanjore District Teachers' Guild

* 2270 Q.—SRI K. V. RAMASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any resolution passed at the Conference of the Tanjore District Teachers' Guild held on 19th February 1955 regarding the pension of teachers; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) Government have received a copy of the appeal made by the Tanjore District Teachers' Guild to the Legislators of Madras State regarding the need for pension to teachers.

" (b) No action was taken on it as Government had already announced their pension scheme for teachers."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" தஞ்சாவூர் உபாத்தியாயர்கள் சங்கத்தின் மகாநாட்டில் அவர்கள் கோரியிருந்தது ஸெகண்டரி கிரேட் டீச்சர்களுக்கும் எலிமெண்டரி ஸ்கூல் டீச்சர்களுக்கும் பென்ஷன் கொடுத்திருப்பதுபோல் மற்ற உபாத்தியாயர்களுக்கும் பென்ஷன் கொடுக்கவேண்டும் என்பது. அதைப்பற்றி சர்க்கார் என்ன முடிவு செய்திருக்கிறார்கள்.? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" எல்லா விஷயங்களையும் ஒரே வருஷத்தில் செய்து முடிக்கக்கூடிய காரியம் அல்ல. எல்லோருக்கும் பென்ஷன் கொடுக்கவேண்டும் என்ற லக்ஷியத்தைப் படிப்படியாகத்தான் பூர்த்தி செய்யமுடியும்."